



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

Patent Application of

Andrew L. Flaherty et al.

Serial No. 08/878,433

Filed: June 18, 1997

"AEROSPACE HOUSING AND SHAFT  
ASSEMBLY WITH NONCONTACTING  
SEAL"

I, Kristin L. Shimeck, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

Kristin L. Shimeck

Signature

October 20, 1997

Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendments to the claims:

18. (Amended) A method of producing a seal assembly having a seal ring, comprising the steps of:

mounting the seal ring on a holder;

positioning the seal ring in alignment with a media blaster;

rotating the holder;

forcing media from the media blaster, toward the seal ring, and into contact with selected locations on the seal ring to thereby form hydropads at [the] selected locations [with] on the seal ring; and

mounting the seal ring in the seal assembly.

Cancel claims 19 - 22.

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24. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 18 [22], further comprising the step of stopping the media blaster after a predetermined time from said [starting] forcing step.

REMARKS

The undersigned attorney is available for a telephone consultation at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



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